SENATE DOCKET, NO. 671 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

SENATE . . . . . No. 1621

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying:

An Act reducing the use of paper and increasing government efficiencies..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bruce E. Tarr	☐ *[District]* ☐
Michael R. Knapik	☐ *[District]* ☐
Robert L. Hedlund	☐ *[District]* ☐
Richard J. Ross	*Norfolk, Bristol, and Middlesex*
Barry R. Finegold	☐ *[District]* ☐
Richard T. Moore	☐ *[District]* ☐

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By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1621) of Bruce E. Tarr, Michael R. Knapik, Robert L. Hedlund, Richard J. Ross and other members of the Senate for legislation to reduce the use of paper and increase government efficiencies. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
SENATE
, NO. *1463* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act reducing the use of paper and increasing government efficiencies..

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. The secretary of administration and finance shall increase the efficiency of government through:

(1) Reducing the use of paper through maximizing the available uses of information technology, including alternative information technologies to substitute for paper and increasing the use of electronic methods for the maintenance, submission, or disclosure of information, to improve data quality, agency efficiency and responsiveness to the public;

(2) Eliminating costly and wasteful government publications through the expanded use of electronic methods for distribution of documentation throughout state government, where feasible and appropriate;

(3) Increasing and maximizing the availability of online transactions; including statutorily and regulatorily required corporate filings and frequently transacted governmental business with the citizens of the Commonwealth;

(4) Maximizing the use and availability electronic forms of payment and eliminating or minimizing any prohibitive fees associated with such transactions; and

15 (5) Eliminating duplicative permitting and paperwork requirements through
16 implementing inter-agency file sharing technologies in order that electronically stored data can
17 be viewed and routed, where appropriate, by multiple agencies.

18 Section 2. The secretary shall investigate any current statutory impediments for the
19 reduction of the use of paper by state government and any impediments both statutory and
20 technological, for more efficient electronic data storage and dissemination. The secretary shall
21 submit his findings, along with any legislative recommendations to address those findings, to the
22 house and senate clerks, and the joint committee on state administration and regulatory oversight
23 no later than August 31, 2011.

24 Section 3. Notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary there shall be a
25 special commission to investigate and make recommendations as to the feasibility of increasing
26 electronic filings, records management and transactions within the judiciary. Said commission
27 shall investigate the possibility of eliminating, or substantially reducing the utilization of paper
28 filings in court proceedings.

29 Said commission shall consist of twenty-five members, one of which shall be the chief
30 justice of the supreme judicial court, or her designee, who shall also serve as chair, one of which
31 shall be the chief justice of the appeals court, or his designee, one of which shall be the chief
32 justice for administration and management, or his designee, one of which shall be the chief judge
33 of the probate and family court, or his designee, one of which shall be the chief judge of the land
34 court, or his designee, one of which shall be the attorney general of the commonwealth, or her
35 designee; nineteen of which shall be appointed by the chief justice of the supreme judicial court,
36 provided that three of which shall be district attorneys from diverse dispersed areas of the
37 commonwealth, or their designees; provided further that three of which shall be clerk of courts in
38 the commonwealth, or their designees; provided further that two of which shall be registers of
39 deeds in the commonwealth, or their designees; provided further that two of which shall be
40 registers of probate in the commonwealth, or their designees; provided further that six of which
41 shall be selected from nominations provided by the Massachusetts Bar Association, provided that
42 such persons shall represent diverse practice areas and practice sizes; provided further that four
43 of which shall be experts in areas of information technology, data storage, security and privacy
44 protection.

45 Said commission shall submit its findings, along with any legislative recommendations
46 necessary to address those findings, to the house and senate clerks, the joint committee on the
47 judiciary, and the joint committee on state administration and regulatory oversight no later than
48 October 15, 2011.